

June 6, 2011

Dave Walls  
Executive Director  
California Building Standards Commission  
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
[cbse@dsg.ca.gov](mailto:cbse@dsg.ca.gov)

**Re: Comments on Proposed 2011 Amendments to the 2010 Green Building Standard Code**

Mr. Walls,

Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP) is a collaborative that promotes strategies to reduce the burden of asthma through a broad and comprehensive approach that includes clinical management and environmental protection. RAMP is happy to see that the 2010 Green Building Standard continues to have significant indoor air quality provisions, including:

1. Vapor barriers are required to prevent moisture/mold.
2. Moisture content of building materials can't be greater than 19% (to prevent mold growth), and building inspectors use moisture meters to determine compliance. For example, new/green lumber like 2X4 studs are usually 30+% moisture. The wood would need 10-14 days to dry out sufficiently before the building inspector would allow the wall to be sealed up w/ sheetrock.
3. Bathroom fans are required to have humidistat controls, in order to ensure that the fan is being used properly and moisture is being vented outside the house.
4. Joints and openings are required to be sealed to prevent rodent entry. An example would be to seal all areas where pipes enter a building so rats can't access.
5. During construction, duct opening are required to be sealed to prevent sheetrock dust and other contaminants from entering the HVAC system.
6. Finish materials (paint, etc.) must be low-VOC.

As you consider future amendments to the standard, we would like to encourage you to apply this standard to all residential construction, not just buildings four stories or less, as we feel that all Californians should benefit from the health protective measures of this standard.

Sincerely,



Anne Kelsey-Lamb, Director  
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention